

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

August 14, 2015

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Office of Inspector General Hotline Complaint 2015-326

FROM: Clay M. Brown

Special Agent, Hotline Manager

Headquarters, Office of Inspector General

TO: Ron Curry

Regional Administrator US EPA Region 6

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Inspector General (OIG), Hotline received on August 13, 2015, a forwarded electronic message from Hope Forpeace, (817) 406-8181, hope@akproductions.tv. The message to the Hotline is a request for assistance regarding a documentary being filmed regarding water contamination in Parker County Texas. In addition she has concerns regarding the EPA and Texas Railroad Commission work to cover up and ignore the facts of the allegations.

This Hotline is being forwarded to your office at the request of the EPA, OIG, Assistant Inspector General for Program Evaluation. The messages received from Ms. Forpeace are attached. It is requested that the Hotline be notified within 30 days of the status of Region 6 response to the message. Ms. Forpeace will be notified of the referral of this Hotline to Region 6.

We established EPA OIG Hotline Number 2015-326, to document the complaint. Please inform the Hotline at brown.clay@epa.gov within the next 5 calendar days that this referral was received. Please do not hesitate calling me at (202) 566-2576 if there are any questions.

Attachment:

From: Hope Forpeace [mailto:hopeforpeacenow@gmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 2:51 PM

To: Lagda, Jeffrey

Subject: Re: Critical Evidence of cover up in Parker County Water contamination case

Hi Jeff,

Thank you much for your note and help in getting this information to the right place.

Other than the fact that the Railroad Commission **used only bogus testing** for the 2011 Lipksy hearing - showing 400K+ ppm methane in the Lipsky water well headspace and zero methane at the vent - and air testing showing no methane, no ethane and 19 ppm propane which is scientifically impossible unless you're sampling a propane tank - also the nitrogen testing allowed to trump the EPA's isotopic testing which has led to 4 "Science of EPA Overreach" themed hearings, was not adjusted for atmospheric influence and thus was also a false reading ... yes, other than that, I do have material evidence that <u>David Porter's submission into Congressional record in February 2014</u> was knowingly false when he calls the Lipsky case a "completely fraudulent stunt" (pg 17) and on pages 24, 25 Porter states that a judge "concluded that Lipsky colluded" and recounts the prima facia ruling of Trey Loftin's court - which was recently overruled by the Texas Supreme Court. Cristic Craddick also failed to correct Rep. Brian Babin in the <u>April 2015 congressional hearing</u> when Mr. Babin made he same accusations (2:02:32) - that the Lipsky case is a hoax. Both of these Commissioners signed off on the <u>TRRC's 2014 report</u> showing the Lipksy case is most certainly NOT a hoax.

That's a bit of what I have, there's much more. I'd like to put the fact that the EPA re-opened the case in our film - not that the EPA and the IG's office are ignoring a dangerous pollution case, especially after we now learn that a <u>Texas family's water well expolded maining the homeowner</u>. Thank you again for helping that effort along.

If you have any questions for me, feel free to call or write,

Hope Forpeace

Producer, AK Productions

p:817.406.8181 | m:831.212.3793 | e:Hope@akproductions.tv | w:AKProductions.tv

From: Hope Forpeace [mailto:hopeforpeacenow@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 3:54 PM

To: Lagda, Jeffrey

Subject: Critical Evidence of cover up in Parker County Water contamination case

Hello Jeffery,

My name is Hope, I'm a producer for AK Productions, a very small non-profit production company from California. I'm currently working on a documentary about the cases of water contamination in Parker county, and the EPA's and Texas Railroad Commission's work to coverup or ignore the facts about the case. I'm staying here in Texas at the Lipsky property and have inside access to relevant information that hasn't been made public.

The evidence that TRRC has actively worked to cover for Range Resources while leaving area residents in harm's way is extensive and I hope to meet with Region 6 and share evidence I have - some of which is covered in the short film I am including a link to. I have attempted to speak with the Railroad Commission about these issues, Ramona Nye refuses to answer serious questions about this case.

It seems the EPA is also working to ignore the case, as Steve Lipsky has forwarded this film to the OIG's office as requested, and has not heard a reply in 6 weeks.

One reason for withdrawing the 12/2010 Emergency Order outlined in the OIG's report from December 2013 is the safety issue was considered no longer imminent as the homeowner now buys (paying \$1,000 a month for the past 4+ years) water and has unhooked the contaminated water well.

Please be advised, Peter Pope of the Railroad Commission has told Steve it's safe for the family to hook the water well back up to the house as long as they vent/aerate the well. The well headspace has 80-95% methane in it and high levels of benzene/VOC's and is in an area where children play. It is by no means "safe".

It is entirely inappropriate for the OIG's office to view the following information, compiled at great expense and time by this homeowner, and then fail to respond to that homeowner. I realize the political friction between the EPA and the state of Texas is long-standing and deep - but I hope the IG's office won't allow that to obstruct justice for the Lipsky's and the nation.

Please view the film at the following link and contact me as soon as possible,

Dangerous Water

Thank you for your time,

Hope Forpeace Producer, AK Productions

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